

## Chapter 19 — Germany a Menace to the World’s Peace and Prosperity

from *Long Heads and Round Heads: Or, What’s the Matter with Germany* (1918)

by William S. Sadler, M.D.

© 2019 Matthew Block

### Sources for Chapter 19, in the order in which they appear

- (1) **Anonymous1**, “Prussian Poison”

*Note:* This article appeared in various newspapers, including *The Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, Ill., Oct. 4, 1917)

- (2) Munroe Smith, LL.D., Editor, **Out of Their Own Mouths**: *Utterances of German Rulers, Statesmen, Savants, Publicists, Journalists, Poets, Business Men, Party Leaders and Soldiers* (New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1917)

- (3) William G. **McAdoo**, Secretary of the Treasury, “We Must Finish the Work”

*Note:* This piece appeared in various newspapers, including *Mount Carmel Evening Register* (Mount Carmel, Ill., Sept. 5, 1917)

- (4) **The Friends of German Democracy**, “A Call from the Friends of German Democracy” (New York: Friends of German Democracy, 1917)

*Note:* This is the likely source but it has not yet been confirmed.

- (5) **Anonymous2**, “Calls World War New Gethsemane”

*Note:* This article appeared in various newspapers, including *Wisconsin State Journal* (Madison, Wisconsin, Oct. 22, 1917)

- (6) James W. **Gerard**, *My Four Years in Germany* (New York: Grosset & Dunlap Publishers, 1917)

*Note:* The full text of this book was printed in installments in various newspapers, including the *Nebraska State Journal*, beginning in August 1917.

## Key

- (a) **Green** indicates where a source first appears, or where it reappears.
- (b) **Yellow** highlights most parallelisms.
- (c) **Tan** highlights parallelisms not occurring on the same row, or parallelisms separated by yellowed parallelisms.
- (d) An underlined word or words indicates where the source and Sadler pointedly differ from one another.
- (e) **Pink** indicates passages where Sadler specifically shares his own experiences, opinions, advice, etc.
- (f) **Red** indicates an obvious mistake, in most cases brought about by Sadler's miscopying or misunderstanding his source, or an otherwise questionable statement.

Matthew Block  
17 February 2019

Work-in-progress Version 19 Feb. 2019  
© 2019 Matthew Block

## **XIX: GERMANY A MENACE TO THE WORLD'S PEACE AND PROSPERITY**

19:0.1 WHEN we look at the problems arising out of the present world-war, when we study the racial constitution of the present-day Germanic peoples, and when we carefully weigh in the balances of our own reason and judgment the vital issues that are at stake and which hinge on the outcome of this terrible conflict, we are forced to recognize that from whatever angle we view the present German Empire—we are forced to recognize that modern Germany is a world menace.

19:0.2 Germany is a menace not only to the world's peace and prosperity, but to the liberty of nations and the democracies of the world. She is, as we shall see presently, also a menace to science and art, not to mention religion and morals. Yes, indeed, the present Prussian auto-cracy is a menace to civilization itself.

### **GERMANY AN INTER- NATIONAL OUTLAW**

19:1.1 No nation, no people, can go on in the quietude of its own culture and engage in the up-building of its industries and furtherance of its peaceable pursuits as long as the German military establishment is permitted to survive.

SOURCE

19: LONG HEADS AND ROUND HEADS

The peace and the prosperity of the whole world have been jeopardized by Germany for a generation, and are now destroyed by premeditated German military attack, and will continue to be jeopardized—yes, the world will resolve itself into one great armed camp—just as long as Kaiserism and Prussianism are permitted to come out of this war unwhipped and un-destroyed.

19:1.2 We have quoted several times from Nietzsche, and be it remembered that

[See 13:2.6.]

at least one German professor **stung** his praises as a prophet come down from high heaven to the German people;

but we venture to give one more quotation from this writer's philosophy which, if believed by any powerful, self-assertive nation the equal of modern Germany, cannot do otherwise than produce a nation which as long as it is militarily well organized and intact—will forever remain a menace to the world's peace and prosperity—that is, just so long as that people continue to believe in and allow themselves to be deceived and guided by these nefarious Prussian teachings and ambitions.

“PRUSSIAN POISON” (Anonymous 1)

Said Nietzsche,

“The infliction of an injury, forcible subjugation, exploitation or annihilation is not in itself a wrong;

cannot be such since life in its essence, in its primary functions, is nothing but oppression and annihilation.”

Nietzsche says:

“The infliction of an injury, forcible subjugation, exploitation or annihilation is not in itself a wrong;

cannot be such since life in its essence, in its primary functions, is nothing but oppression and annihilation.

## SOURCE

“Conditions of justice can never be anything but exceptional—conditions, that is, as limitations of the real desire of life, the object of which is power.”

“The fight is not for life or existence, but for power.”

“Life does not seek self-preservation, but self-increase or ‘will to power.’”

“The love of fighting is for its own sake, in contrast to the modern humanitarian view.”

“Spare not thy neighbor.”

“Say not, I will do unto others as I would they should do unto me.”

“Do not believe thou mayest not rob.”

“Christian piety and ideals of equality and peace are impossible, since life is nothing but inequality and war” (A1).

## 19: LONG HEADS AND ROUND HEADS

Conditions of Justice can never be anything but exceptional conditions, that is, as limitations of the real desire of life, the object of which is power.

The fight is not for life or existence, but for power.

Life does not seek self-preservation, but self-increase or ‘will to power.’

The love of fighting is for its own sake, in contrast to the modern humanitarian view.

Spare not thy neighbor.

Say not, I will do unto others as I would they should do unto me.

Do not believe thou mayest not rob.

Christian piety and ideals of equality and peace are impossible, since life is nothing but inequality and war.”

## GERMANY A MENACE TO THE WORLD’S LIBERTY

19:2.1 This war is a clear-cut, life-and-death struggle between democracy and autocracy, between the “rule of the people” and the “divine right of kings.”

The German government—yes, and, as at present taught and deceived, even the German people (at least a vast majority of them)—still believe in the “divine right of kings,”

SOURCE

19: LONG HEADS AND ROUND HEADS

I: UTTERANCES OF RULERS (*Out of Their Own Mouths* 1)

**Imperial menaces** (*Out of Their Own Mouths* 4)

. . . Remember that you are the chosen people!

The Spirit of the Lord has descended upon me because I am the Emperor of the Germans! (4)

[contd] I am the instrument of the Almighty. I am His sword, His agent.

Woe and death to all those who shall oppose my will! Woe and death to those who do not believe in my mission! Woe and death to the cowards! (4)

[contd] Let them perish, all the enemies of the German people! God demands their destruction, God who, by my mouth, bids you to do His will!

William II, Proclamation to the Army of the East, 1914 (4).

and in proof of this statement let me cite an extract from the speech of William II (or rather a quotation from his proclamation to the Army of the East in 1914), as follows:

19:2.2 “Remember that you are the chosen people!

The Spirit of the Lord has descended upon me because I am the Emperor of the Germans!

I am the instrument of the Almighty. I am His sword, His agent.

Woe and death to all those who shall oppose my will! Woe and death to those who do not believe in my mission! Woe and death to the cowards!

Let them perish—all the enemies of the German people! God demands their destruction; God, who by my mouth bids you to do His will!”

19:2.3 And this shows the folly of those Americans who sit back and advocate that we shall wait until the Germans get in our country and then take up the fight. No! A powerful military conqueror, dominated with the obsession of a World Empire, is engaged in a deliberate and premeditated struggle with all the world to effect its overthrow and bring about its domination.

SOURCE

19: LONG HEADS AND ROUND HEADS

“WE MUST FINISH THE WORK”

(McAdoo)

“... The world can no longer survive half democratic and half autocratic.

One or the other must triumph (McA).

We vindicated freedom in America; we obliterated slavery from the free soil of this great Nation. That is what we have got to do for the entire world—destroy despotism, which is another form of slavery, and make liberty supreme. In no other way can the world be made safe for democracy...”—William G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury (McA).

We have reached the time when, owing to the attitude of Germany,

the world cannot go on half democratic and half autocratic.

It will, at the end of this present titanic struggle, be either all democratic or eventually all autocratic;

and it is against such a day as this that the American Republic has been nurtured and made strong by a kind Providence, that it may now throw the mighty force of its combined man and money power into the scale against the wicked aggressor of nations; and let us hope that by and through the effectiveness of our forces, though tardy in arriving, we shall be able so to turn the scales of battle as to

make the world hereafter and forever a “safe place for democracy.”

**GERMANY A MENACE TO DEMOCRACY**

“PRUSSIAN POISON” (Anonymous)

19:3.1 Liberty and freedom—the democracies of the world—can never be safe as long as Germany believes in, and is willing to fight in defense of, such political teachings as those of

SOURCE

19: LONG HEADS AND ROUND HEADS

Then came Bernhardi, with such maxims as these:

General Bernhardi, who said:

“Our people must learn to see that the maintenance of peace never can or may be the goal of a policy.”

“Our people must learn to see that the maintenance of peace never can or may be the goal of a policy.

“None of the wars which Frederick the Great fought had been forced upon him; none of them did he postpone as long as possible.”

None of the wars which Frederick the Great fought had been forced upon him; none of them did he postpone as long as possible.

“The right to fight becomes the duty to make war.”

The right to fight becomes the duty to make war.

“Right is respected so far only as is compatible with advantage.”

Right is respected so far only as is compatible with advantage.

“Might is the supreme right, and the dispute as to what is right is decided by the arbitrament of war” (A1).

Might is the supreme right, and to dispute as to what is right is decided by the arbitrament of war.”

19:3.2 Of course, I am aware that

[contd] Germans contend that Bernhardi was never influential in Germany,

some Germans in this country have endeavored to disown Bernhardi;

yet the crown prince has declared that “every German ought to read Bernhardi’s book,”

yet he is so influential in Germany that the Crown Prince declared that “Every German ought to read Bernhardi’s book,”

and his “Germany and the Next War” has served as at once the Baedeker and the Bible of the German war office.

while his *Germany and the Next War* is the real Bible of the German war office.

Whether or not Germans should read it,

And whether or not Germans should read it,

Americans should.

I know full well that many Americans would be wonderfully enlightened and rudely awakened if they would but read this book.



## SOURCE

They should read “Prussian Poison.” They should read “Gems (?) of German Thought,” compiled by William Archer. They should read the still newer compilation, “Out of Their Own Mouths” (A1).

[*Note:* The likely source for the quoted passages is “A Call Issued by the Friends of German Democracy,” a three-page pamphlet published in 1917 by The Friends of German Democracy. This pamphlet is listed in library catalogues but I haven’t yet been able to access a copy. See endnote for information about the Friends of German Democracy.]

## 19: LONG HEADS AND ROUND HEADS

19:3.3 And now it is indeed encouraging that certain so-called German-Americans have recognized the evil of this Prussian poison and the autocratic nature of the German government, and they have set about to organize what they call the “Friends of German Democracy.”<sup>1</sup>

They set down as their object “The rendering of moral and material aid to the forces and leaders of Germany striving to obtain self-government for the German people.” And these men recognize what the German government really is, for in their initial appeal they draw this terrible indictment against Prussianism: “The Prussian dynasty today is the autocratic ruler of Germany. The army swears fealty to the Emperor and not to the people. The Emperor is the commander-in-chief, with absolute powers. . . . No change in the imperial constitution is possible against the will of fourteen members of the federal council (bundesrath), and as eighteen members of the council are appointed by the Emperor, none can be made without the assent of the Emperor. . . . The reichstag is, in effect, a debating society reflecting public opinion for the benefit of the dynasty and its leading men, and is not a co-ordinate branch of the government. . . . The spirit of democracy in Germany never has been dead, but its assertion since 1848 has uniformly resulted in the punishment of the courageous defenders of its ideals.”

SOURCE

19: LONG HEADS AND ROUND HEADS

“CALLS WORLD WAR NEW  
GETHSEMANE” (Anonymous2)

19:3.4 Whatever the shortcomings of democracy, we must stand for its defense. George Washington knew enough to refuse a crown as an American king. He probably had sufficient foresight to look down into the twentieth century and note how little crowns would be worth in this day and age of the world, for if Germany loses this present fight for the “divine right of kings,”

So declared Dr. Frank Gunsaulus of Chicago as he addressed an audience of more than 5,000 in the university stock pavilion last night....

“Crowns were never so cheap as they are tonight.

European crowns will be quoted at astonishingly low prices.

I am in accord with the man who said,

“While I’ve never been a democrat,

I would sooner have that old hat of Woodrow Wilson’s than any crown in Europe...” (A2).

I would pay more for one of Woodrow Wilson’s old hats than for the best crown in Europe.”

[Note: Gunsaulus repeated this statement in various forms, such as: “I am a Republican, but I would be ashamed of my Republicanism if I could not honestly say that I would rather have any old hat worn by Woodrow Wilson than to have any crown worn in Europe” (*The Hardin County Ledger*, Eldora, Iowa, April 18, 1918).]

XX: LAST (Gerard 307)

19:3.5 Ambassador Gerard, in summing up his conclusions on Germany, says:

It is because in the dark, cold Northern plains of Germany there exists an autocracy,

“On the cold northern plains of Germany there exists an Autocracy,

**SOURCE**

**19: LONG HEADS AND ROUND HEADS**

deceiving a great people, poisoning their minds from one generation to another and preaching the virtue and necessity of war;

deceiving a great people, poisoning their minds from one generation to another and preaching the virtue and necessity of war;

and until that autocracy is either wiped out or made powerless, there can be no peace on earth (G 309).

and until that Autocracy is either wiped out or made powerless, there can be no peace on earth.”

1. From *Complete Report of the Chairman of the Committee on Public Information 1917: 1918: 1919* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1920):

In October, 1917, the American Friends of German Democracy was organized to aid in holding the German born loyal to America and “to encourage the cause of democracy by aiding the German nation to establish a government responsible to the people.” ... Mr. Julius Koettgen has acted as executive secretary of the organization and as manager of the German Bureau from the first. Branches of the American Friends of German Democracy carried on local work in the 12 main German-American centers.

The main work of the organization was done through the press and through pamphlets. There was issued each week a bulletin up to November, 1918, and after that weekly news releases were sent out containing important Government information and specialized material on the war and conditions in Europe which would have wide influence on persons of German descent (p. 89).